Restricted Data Analysis System (RDAS)

The Restricted Data Analysis System (RDAS) is an online tool designed to expand public access to the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) data. The SED RDAS data is based on a sample subjected to statistical procedures to produce estimates that reflect the entire population of doctorate recipients and protect the confidentiality of individual level data. The RDAS provides a secure platform to analyze a comprehensive set of SED variables from the 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 SED collections.

Set up an account at ncsesdata.nsf.gov/rdas/

Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) Data in RDAS

The SED is an annual census of approximately 55,000 individuals receiving a new research doctorate from U.S. colleges and universities. The SED collects information on the doctorate recipient's educational history, funding sources postgraduation plans, employment related and demographic characteristics. The statistical methodology used to produce SED RDAS data protects against disclosure of confidential information, and appropriate adjustments for unit and item nonresponses. To learn more details, see SED RDAS Data Preparation Methodology.

What tables can I create using RDAS?

- One-way counts and percentage distributions
- Multi-way counts and percentage distributions
- Multi-way counts and average/median tables
- Multi-way counts, percents greater/less than, and percents equal/not equal
- Filter by categorical variables
- Apply nested variables

Why should I use RDAS?

- Access the SED restricted data in a secure and on-demand table generation tool
- Create data tables that provide estimates for the full doctorate population without missing data
- Instantly create complex SED data tables in a simple, click-and-drag interface
- Quickly search SED variables and variable information
- Save data tables as CSV and PDF or share table links with other SED data users

Questions? Contact RDAS at RDAS_support@rti.org